

6-4-73

PH0006301 # 73000282 H13 0339080 Znl9 4726180

Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE: Massachusetts	
COUNTY: Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 3 1973

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)



② 338510  
4726000  
③ 338280  
4726700  
④ 338800  
4726890

#### 1. NAME

COMMON: Howe Village Historic District  
 AND/OR HISTORIC: Howe Village

#### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: *NE of Boxford on*  
 c. 1/4 mile on either side of Mass. Rt. 97 (Salem Road)  
 CITY OR TOWN: Boxford *ms*  
 STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025 COUNTY: Essex CODE: 009

#### 3. CLASSIFICATION

 Cong. District #6

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

#### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Private residences  
 STREET AND NUMBER: Salem Road  
 CITY OR TOWN: Boxford STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

#### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Essex County Registry of Deeds  
 STREET AND NUMBER: Courthouse  
 CITY OR TOWN: Lawrence STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

#### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth  
 DATE OF SURVEY: 1970  Federal  State  County  Local  
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Massachusetts Historical Commission, Office of the Secretary  
 STREET AND NUMBER: State House, Beacon Street  
 CITY OR TOWN: Boston STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Massachusetts  
 COUNTY: Essex  
 ENTRY NUMBER: APR 3  
 FOR NPS USE ONLY  
 DATE:

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Howe Village Historic District, Boxford, consists of approximately 65 acres. It lies about one mile to the east of Interstate 95. The District runs northwesterly from the Topsfield town line about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile on either side of Mass. Rt. 97 (Salem Road). This District centers around a number of properties which date from the 17th to the 20th century.

There are few large open spaces except for the Aaron Perley farm in the northwest corner of the District. Rather it is a cluster of homes, situated relatively near the busy, tree-shaded state highway and surrounded by large grounds. Of the fourteen structures in the District, the six which are 20th century are all on the west side of Salem Road, affording protection for the eight historic structures on the east side of the road. Of the latter, the earliest is believed to date from 1684 (Thomas Perley House), the focal point of the District. The dwellings represent a variety of rural Colonial and 19th century styles.

When traveling south on Salem Road, the first property on the left (east) is the Aaron Perley House (1818), set back about 300 yards from the street at the end of a drive which winds first through wooded land and then rolling open fields onto which the house faces, affording it a fine vista to the southwest. The  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story white clapboard house, with its fanlighted front doorway and double chimneys set in from the ends in the ridge of the low pitched roof, has a group of outbuildings to one side and behind it, forming a farm complex.

Next is the Daniel Bixby House (1841), a two-story clapboard structure facing the street, with a "Beverly jog" on the north facade. An unusual element is its  $\frac{1}{2}$ -size second story windows on the front facade immediately beneath the eaves.

The third of these historically significant houses is the Little Hale House, built in 1823 but so greatly altered its age is no longer recognizable. Nearby is the Old Hale House (1749), a  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story saltbox, still retaining the center chimney, graduated clapboards and small windows, typical of the period.

The Thomas Perley House next door has been dated both 1684 and 1760 by the local historian, Sidney Perley. From the present exterior appearance, the latter date seems more likely as the house has no 17th century exterior characteristics except possibly the large center chimney. However, it may have been considerably altered since 1684. Today it is of yellow painted clapboard with a pitched roof, enclosed front entrance porch with a pediment and side lights, and uniformly spaced six-over-six windows.

The last three historic houses on the east side of Salem Road all date from the middle 19th century and all are frame covered by clapboards,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  stories high. The William Howe House (1859) was late Greek Revival originally but has had a two-story bay window and covered entrance porch added to the front facade plus other protrusions to the south and north, resulting in an ambiguous style and irregular mass.

The Edward Howe House (1844) next door with its regularly spaced windows and green shutters is more classical in its simplicity and form and is built in the Colonial manner. A small screened-in, one-story front porch has been added to one end of the front facade.

The last of these three 19th century houses, that of Leverett S. Howe (1849), is similar in its irregular massing (miscellaneous and asymmetrical

(cont.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Massachusetts	
COUNTY	
Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 3 1972

(Number all entries) Howe Village Historic District, Boxford

7. Physical Appearance (cont.)

porches, bay windows and dormers) to the aforementioned William Howe House two doors away and is again basically Greek Revival. With shuttered windows, it has a front screened-in veranda extending across the entire first floor front elevation.

All dwellings are inhabited and in good repair. At present there is no commercial or industrial activity in the Village. Howe Village's atmosphere of history and its physical appearance create a strong unity in the Historic District.

Description of Howe Village Historic District Boundaries

Beginning at the intersection of the Boxford town line, the centerline of Salem Road (Route 97), and the southern boundary of the Dougher property; thence following the Dougher boundary until it meets the eastern boundary of the Shelly property; thence following, as necessary for a continuous uninterrupted boundary, the backlot lines of the Shelly property, the Barr property, the Perkins property, and the Murray property, so as to include the Murray property, until it intersects the centerline of Salem Road; thence following southwesterly the centerline of Salem Road until it intersects an easterly extension of the northern boundary of the Perry property, at approximately where Ipswich Road joins Salem Road; thence running westerly across Ipswich Road and along the northern Perry boundary; thence following, as necessary for a continuous uninterrupted boundary, the backlot lines of the Perry property, the LeBlanc property, the Carbone property, the Mueller property, and the Cole property, until it intersects the centerline of Pye Brook Lane; thence following this centerline until it intersects the western boundary of the Dawes property; thence following the Dawes boundary until it intersects the Boxford town line; thence following the town line across the Dawes property, and then across the Scott Thompson property to the point of beginning. (See attached Historic District map.)



8. SIGNIFICANCE

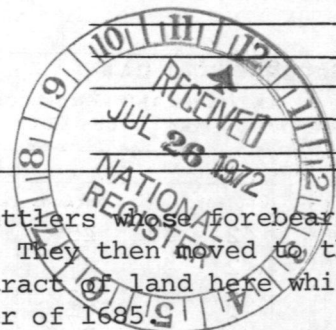
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |  |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1684, 1749, 1818, 1823, 1841, 1844, 1849, 1859, 20th c.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry    | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                   | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture  | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                 | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian       | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                   | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Town of Boxford was founded by a group of settlers whose forebearers had come from Yorkshire, England to Salem in 1638. They then moved to the Rowley area and eventually purchased an extensive tract of land here which was incorporated as the Town of Boxford by a charter of 1685.

The main road going through Howe Village, called Salem Road (Route 97), was the first road laid out in Boxford (1652) and before the Route 95 interruption, ran continuously from North Andover to Ipswich. It was only natural that a settlement such as Howe Village should ultimately develop at a point on this road. Thomas Perley, who had purchased a large tract of land bordering the road in the east, where he built his home in 1684, conducted a public house and tavern to take advantage of the ensuing traffic.

Although John Winthrop had procured a deed in 1638 from the Agawam Indian chief for the large tract of land including what was later to become the Town of Boxford, the chief's grandsons disputed this deed in 1700. In January, 1701, a meeting between the Indians and a town committee was held at Thomas Perley's public house in Howe Village. For a few pounds and "vittels and drink" the Indians gave a quit claim deed for the territory in dispute.

The Perley family, whose descendants inhabit Boxford today, was prominent in town and provincial affairs. The first Thomas Perley was an influential man, being one of the early representatives to the General Court and an incumbent of most of the town offices. In 1727 his son, Thomas, a man of means, was a captain in the militia and periodically a representative to the General Court.

Thomas' son, Asa, was born in this house (and rebuilt it in 1760, according to historian Sidney Perley's original 1893 account.) He too was a representative to the General Court, a Selectman for ten years and in 1775 a member of the Provincial Congress. Major Asa Perley died in 1806, leaving the property to his son, Samuel, whose son, Ira, became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of New Hampshire.

The Aaron Perley homestead, in the northwest corner of the Historic District, was inherited by Thomas, the grandson of the first Thomas Perley. The present 1818 house was built by the great-grandson of Thomas, Aaron Perley, who was a wealthy and influential member of the community. The spacious federal style house, surrounded by extensive fields and woods, reflects this affluence and is of architectural importance.

The Old Hale House to the north of the Thomas Perley House was owned by Hales from the date of construction (1749) to 1888. Seemingly little altered since construction, it is architecturally significant as an example of middle 18th century building.

(cont.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Perley, Sidney: History of Boxford, 1880, published by the author  
 Perley, Sidney: Dwellings of Boxford, 1893, Essex Institute, Salem, Mass.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	42 ° 40 ' 40 "	70 ° 58 ' 25 "		0	0	
NE	42 ° 40 ' 47 "	70 ° 58 ' 03 "				
SE	42 ° 40 ' 23 "	70 ° 57 ' 52 "				
SW	42 ° 40 ' 17 "	70 ° 58 ' 14 "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: c. 65 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Anne Wardwell (by Elizabeth R Amadon)

ORGANIZATION: Massachusetts Historical Commission  
 DATE: April 11, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 State House, Beacon Street

CITY OR TOWN: Boston  
 STATE: Massachusetts  
 CODE: 025

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: John F. K. Dawson  
 Title: Secretary of the Commonwealth & Chairman of the Historical Com.

Date: June 21, 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert W. Utley  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/3/73

ATTEST: Wm. J. Murty  
 Keeper of the National Register

Date: 3-26-73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Massachusetts	
COUNTY	
Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 3 1972

(Number all entries)

Howe Village Historic District, Boxford

8. Statement of Significance (cont.)

The Little Hale House next door, built as a store but never used as one, has had a variety of owners and uses, the latter including a shoe manufactory for a short period.

The remaining four historic houses in the District were either built by or resided in by various members of the Howe family, from which the area gets its name. Shoe manufacturing was a profitable part of the village's economy during the 19th century; the Howe family were leaders in this occupation. Shoe making was carried on at both the Edward Howe House and the William Howe House from the 1840's until almost the end of the 19th century.

Howe Village was voted a Chapter 40C Historic District by the Town of Boxford on March 1, 1971.



The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below.

- 1. Name. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Location. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Classification. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Owner of Property. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Location of Legal Description. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. Representation in Existing Surveys. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. Description. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. Statement of Significance. \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. Bibliography. \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. Geographical Data.
  - a. Longitude and Latitude Coordinates. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Acreage. \_\_\_\_\_
- 11. Form Prepared By. \_\_\_\_\_
- 12. Certification. \_\_\_\_\_
- Photographic Coverage. \_\_\_\_\_
- Map Coverage. Please send original Geological Survey Map. Original resubmitted 3/8/73 PJS -
- Other. \_\_\_\_\_

Clarification or correction of the above items must be made prior to the initiation of our professional review. Correction of these technical errors does not necessarily insure that the nomination will then satisfy National Register criteria in full.

Thank you for your attention to the above items checked. T. Hanks,  
SIGNED: Raydine A. Jones

PROPERTY HOWE VILLAGE HISTORIC DIST. STATE MASS.

Working number 7.26.72.1158

TECH REVIEW  
Photos 1  
Maps 2

Essex

REVIEW We could have a cleaner map.

MLJ  
10-30-72

HISTORIAN I don't think the photographic coverage is very good. Otherwise, O.K.

corrected 3-14-73

2-13-73  
S. Small

ARCHEOLOGIST

ARCHITECT

DLKH  
2/5/73

BRANCH CHIEF

DMG  
3/26/73

EDITORIAL REVIEW

KEEPER

Wm  
3/26

National Register write-up \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Register entry 6-5-73

Acknowledge 7-26-72  
Send-back 3-1-73  
Re-submit 3-13-73

Register no. APR 3 1973



APRIL 1, 1972

Howe Village District, Boxford  
Looking North Across Mass Rte 97

Old Hale House (1749)

NPS Number 4/3/73

Title: Howe Village Hist. District

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE  
Massachusetts

COUNTY  
Essex

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

APR 3

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Howe Village Historic District  
AND/OR HISTORIC: Howe Village

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Salem Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Boxford

STATE:  
Massachusetts

CODE COUNTY:  
025 Essex

CODE  
009

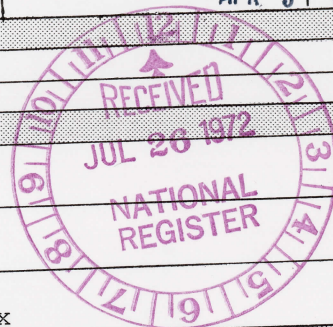
3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Boxford Historic District Commission  
DATE OF PHOTO: April 1, 1972  
NEGATIVE FILED AT:  
Boxford Historic District Commission, Boxford

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Old Hale House, looking north across Salem Road (Mass. Rt. 97)



PRO



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**PROPERTY MAP FORM**

*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)*

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 3 1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. NAME**

COMMON: Howe Village Historic District

AND/OR HISTORIC: Howe Village

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:

Salem Road

CITY OR TOWN:

Boxford

STATE:

Massachusetts

CODE

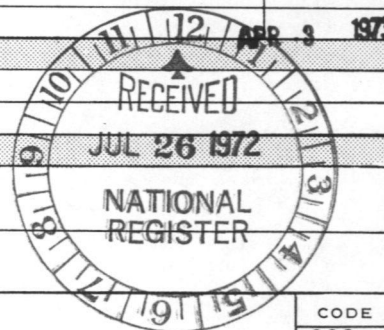
025

COUNTY:

Essex

CODE

009



**3. MAP REFERENCE**

SOURCE:

U.S.G.S. Georgetown

SCALE: 1:24,000

DATE: 1966

**4. REQUIREMENTS**

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

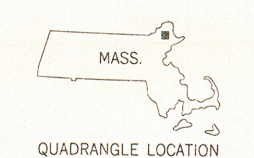
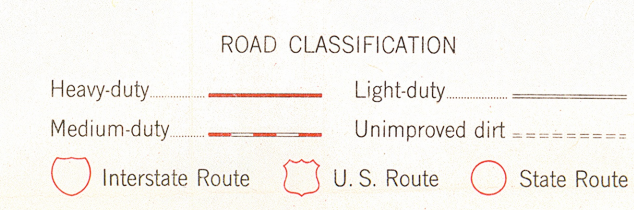
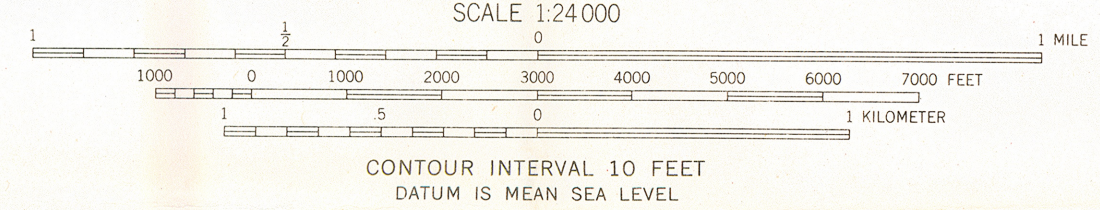
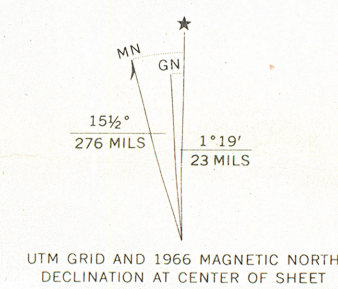
1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.



HOWE VILLAGE  
HISTORIC DISTRICT  
BOXFORD

#13  
219  
① 339080  
4726180  
② 338510  
4726000  
③ 338280  
4726700  
④ 338800  
4726890

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey  
Topography by planetable surveys 1942. Revised 1966  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,  
mainland zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 19, shown in blue



GEORGETOWN, MASS.  
N4237.5—W7052.5/7.5

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered APR 3 1973

Name

Location

City Hall

Salem  
Essex County

Lenox Library

Lenox  
Berkshire County

Mechanics Block Historic District

Lawrence  
Essex County

Bowe Village Historic District

Boxford  
Essex County

Clafin-Richards House

Wenham  
Essex County

Mohawk Trail

vicinities of Charlemont, Florida, and  
Savoy  
Berkshire and Franklin Counties

Fort Washington

Cambridge  
Middlesex County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy  
Hon. Edward W. Brooke  
Hon. Michael J. Harrington  
Hon. Silvio O. Conte  
Hon. Paul Cronin  
Hon. Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.

State Historic Preservation Officer  
Hon. John F. X. Davoren  
Secretary of the Commonwealth  
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical  
Commission  
40 Beacon Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Director, Northeast Region

4/11/73

NRowland:mm

PHR